

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Christopher D. Knight  
Serial No. 09/333,095  
Filed June 15, 1999  
For PROCESS FOR OPTIMIZING MILK PRODUCTION  
Examiner Nina Bhat

Art Unit 1761

July 10, 2000

**Response Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116**  
**Amendment After Final**

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS,

SIR:

In response to the Office action dated April 10, 2000, please enter the following amendments:

**In the Specification:**

Page 6, line 26, after "Systems," replace "Internet Text Address:

HTTP://www.inform.umd.edu" with - - The National Dairy Database, June 1992 - - .

**In the Claims:**

Please amend claim 9 as follows:

9. A process for formulating a ruminant food ration, the process comprising:

determining the methionine needs of the ruminant using a nutritional model  
wherein the nutritional model is a computer program,

identifying a plurality of natural or synthetic feed ingredients and the nutrient composition of each of said ingredients wherein one of said ingredients is a hydroxy analog of methionine selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxy-4-(methylthio)butanoic acid, ammonium salts of 2-hydroxy-4-(methylthio)butanoic acid, alkaline earth salts of 2-hydroxy-4-(methylthio)butanoic acid, alkali earth salts of 2-



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